

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-16 are indicated as allowable by the Examiner if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

At the same time, claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of the claims has been gratefully acknowledged.

In connection with the Examiner's formal rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, applicants canceled the original claims and submitted a new set of claims including claim 17, the broadest claim on file, and claims 18-32 which depend on it.

Claims 17-32 have been drafted in compliance with the requirements of the U.S. Patent and Trademark and with careful consideration of the Examiner's grounds for the formal rejection of the original claims.

It is believed that the newly submitted claims should be considered as overcoming the formal rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 and should be allowed.

Applicants have also amended the specification to provide the required headings in accordance with the U.S. Patent Practice. Cross reference to a related application has been made, in particular to the German priority application, to provide a basis for claiming the priority.

Finally, a new Abstract of the Disclosure in compliance with the Examiner's requirements has been submitted.

It is believed that the present application should be considered as being in allowable condition, and its allowance is earnestly solicited.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should

the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

/ Michael J. Striker /

Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 27233